Numb. 106

The TATLER.

By *Isaac Bickerstaff* Esq;

——— *Invenies dissecti Membra Poetæ.* Hor.

From *Saturday December* 10. to *Tuesday December* 13. 1709.

Will's Coffee-house, December 12.

I Was this Evening sitting at the Side-Table, and reading one of my own Papers with great Satisfaction, not knowing that I was observed by any in the Room. I had not long enjoyed this secret Pleasure of an Author, when a Gentleman, some of whose Works I have been highly entertained with, accosted me after the following Manner: Mr. *Bickerstaff*, you know I have for some Years devoted my self wholly to the Muses, and perhaps you will be surprised when I tell you I am resolv'd to take up and apply my self to Business: I shall therefore beg you will stand my Friend, and recommend a Customer to me for several Goods that I have now upon my Hands. I desir'd him to let me have a Particular, and I would do my utmost to serve him. I have first of all, says he, the Progress of an Amour digested into Sonnets, beginning with a Poem to the unknown Fair, and ending with an Epithalamium. I have celebrated in it, her Cruelty, her Pity, her Face, her Shape, her Wit, her good Humour, her Dancing, her Singing— I could not forbear interrupting him; This is a most accomplished Lady, said I; but has she really, with all these Perfections, a fine Voice. Pugh, says he, you do not believe there is such a Person in Nature. This was only my Employment in Solitude last Summer, when I had neither Friends or Books to divert me. I was going, says I, to ask her Name, but I find it is only an imaginary Mistress. That's true, replied my Friend, but her Name is *Flavia*. I have, continued he, in the second Place, a Collection of Lampoons, calculated either for the *Bath*, *Tunbridge*, or any Place where they drink Waters, with blank Spaces for the Names of such Person or Persons as may be inserted in them on Occasion. Thus much I have told only of what I have by me proceeding from Love and Malice. I have also at this Time the Sketch of an Heroick Poem upon the next Peace; Several indeed of the Verses are either too long or too short, it being a rough Draught of my Thoughts upon that Subject. I thereupon told him, That as it was, it might probably pass for a very good Pindarick, and I believed I knew one who would be willing to deal with him for it upon that Foot. I must tell you also, I have made a Dedication to it, which is about four Sides close written, that may serve any one that is tall and understands Latin. I have further, about Fifty Similies, that were never yet apply'd, besides Three and twenty Descriptions of the Sun-rising, that might be of great Use to an Epick Poet. These are my more bulky Commodities: Besides which, I have several small Wares that I would part with at easy Rates; as, Observations upon Life, and Moral Sentences, reduc'd into several Couplets, very proper to close up Acts of Plays, and may be easily introduced by two or three Lines of Prose, either in Tragedy or Comedy. If I could find a Purchaser curious in Latin-Poetry I could accommodate him with Two Dozen of Epigrams, which, by Reason of a few false Quantities, should come for little or nothing.

I heard the Gentleman with much Attention, and asked him, Whether he would break Bulk and sell his Goods by Retail, or designed they should all go in a Lump? He told me, That he should be very loth to part them, unless it was to oblige a Man of Quality, or any Person for whom I had a particular Friendship. My Reason for asking (said I) is, only because I know a young Gentleman who intends to appear next Spring in a new jingling Chariot, with the Figures of the Nine Muses on each Side of it; and I believe, would be glad to come into the World in Verse. We could not go on in our Treaty, by Reason of Two or Three Criticks that joined us. They had been talking, it seems, of the Two Letters which were found in the Coffin, and mentioned in one of my late Lucubrations, and came with a Request to me, that I would communicate any others of them that were legible. One of the Gentlemen was pleased to say, That it was a very proper Instance of a Widow's Constancy; and said, he wish'd I had subjoined, as a Foil to it, the following Passage in *Hamlet*. The young Prince was not yet acquainted with all the Guilt of his Mother, but turns his Thoughts on her sudden Forgetfulness of his Father, and the Indecency of her hasty Marriage.

——— That it should come to this!
But Two Months dead! Nay, not so much, not Two!
So excellent a King! That was to this
Hyperion to a Satyr! So loving to my Mother!
That he permitted not the Winds of Heav'n
To visit her Face too roughly! Heav'n and Earth!
Must I remember? Why she would hang on him!
As if Increase of Appetite had grown
By what it fed on? And yet, within a Month!
Let me not think on't—— Frailty, thy Name is Woman!
A little Month! Or e're those Shoes were old,
With which she follow'd my poor Father's Body,
Like Niobe all Tears; Why she! e'n she!
Oh Heav'n! a Brute, that wants Discourse of Reason,
Would have mourn'd longer!—— Married with mine
Uncle's
My Father's Brother! But no more like my Father,
Than I to Hercules! Within a Month!
E're yet the Salt of most unrighteous Tears,
Had left the Flushing of her gauled Eyes,
She marry'd—— O most wicked Speed! To post
With such Dexterity to incestuous Sheets!
It is not, nor it cannot come to Good!
But break, my Heart; for I must hold my Tongue!

The several Emotions of Mind, and Breaks of Passion, in this Speech, are admirable. He has touched every Circumstance that aggravated the Fact, and seemed capable of hurrying the Thoughts of

of a Son into Diſtraction. His Father's Tenderneſs for his Mother, expreſſed in ſo delicate a Particular; his Mother's Fondneſs for his Father no leſs exquiſitely deſcribed; the great and amiable Figure of his dead Parent drawn by a true Filial Piety; his Diſdain of ſo unworthy a Succeſſor to his Bed: But above all, the Shortneſs of the Time between his Father's Death and his Mother's Second Marriage, brought together with ſo much Diſorder; make up as noble a Part as any in that celebrated Tragedy. The Circumſtance of Time I never could enough admire. The Widowhood had laſted Two Months. This is his Firſt Reflection: But as his Indignation riſes, he ſinks to ſcarce Two Months: Afterwards into a Month; and at laſt, into a Little Month. But all this ſo naturally, that the Reader accompanies him in the Violence of his Paſſion, and finds the Time leſſen inſenſibly, according to the different Workings of his Diſdain. I have not mentioned the Inceſt of her Marriage, which is ſo obvious a Provocation; but can't forbear taking Notice, that when his Fury is at it's Height, he cries, *Frailty, thy Name is Woman!* As railing at the Sex in general, rather than giving himſelf Leave to think his Mother worſe than others.--- *Deſideranter multa.*

Whereas Mr. Jeffery Groggram *has ſurrendered himſelf by his Letter bearing Date* December 7. *and has ſent an Acknowledgment that he is dead, praying an Order to the Company of Upholders for Interrment at ſuch a reaſonable Rate as may not impoveriſh his Heirs; The ſaid* Groggram *having been dead ever ſince he was born, and added nothing to his ſmall Patrimony, Mr.* Bickerſtaff *has taken the Premiſſes into Conſideration; and being ſenſible of the ingenuous and ſingular Behaviour of this Petitioner, pronounces the ſaid* Jeffery Groggram *a live Man, and will not ſuffer that he ſhould bury himſelf out of Modeſty; but requires him to remain among the Living, as an Example to thoſe obſtinate dead Men, who will neither labour for Life, nor go to their Grave.*

N. B. *Mr.* Groggram *is the Firſt Perſon that has come in upon Mr.* Bickerſtaff's *Dead Warrant.*

Florinda *demands by her Letter of this Day to be allowed a living Woman, having danced the* Derbyſhire Hornpipe *in the Preſence of ſeveral Friends on* Saturday *laſt.*

Granted; *Provided ſhe can bring Proof, that ſhe can make a Pudding on the 24th Inſtant.*

Whereas I am informed, That there is a ſpurious and very incorrect Edition of theſe Papers printed in a ſmall Volume; Theſe are to give Notice, That there is in the Preſs, and will ſpeedily be publiſhed, a very neat Edition, fitted for the Pocket, on extraordinary good Paper, a new Brevier *Letter, like the Eleven Editions, and adorned with ſeveral Cuts by the beſt Artiſts. To which is added, a Preface, Index, and many Notes, for the better Explanation of theſe Lucubrations. By the Author. Who has reviſed, amended, and made many Additions to the Whole.*

N. B. Notice ſhall be given in this Paper, when I conclude my Firſt Volume.

Advertiſements.

WHereas there were lately Advertiſements in the Publick Prints, of a Globular New Light that was to be put up at St. James's Coffee-houſe, to be ſeen there for Approbation, which hath ſince been perform'd to the general Satisfaction of thoſe that have ſeen the ſame; the Perſon who hath the Patent for the ſaid Light living in Ireland, is willing upon reaſonable Terms to diſpoſe of his Intereſt therein relating to this Kingdom; and any Perſon that hath a Mind to treat about the ſame, may hear of him, and ſee the ſaid Patent, at the Patent-Office in Paulſgrave Head-Court near Temple-Bar.

WHereas the Author of a certain printed Paper, has publiſhed many mal-t---s and ſcur-l --s Reflections upon Sir J. W. Bar. Theſe are to undeceive and ſatisfy the World, That the Tuition of the young Lady therein mentioned, is appointed to him by the Will of her late Father, and was neither perverted, nor an Heireſs; as is very well known to all her Relations; and that his Story of a Preſentation to a certain Living in Glouceſterſhire, is intirely miſtaken and falſe.

On Thurſday next will be publiſh'd,

The Atlas Geographus: Or, A Compleat Syſtem of Geography, Ancient and Modern. Publiſh'd Monthly. This Eighteenth for November, 1709. finiſhes the Government of Brittany; and contains that of Orleanois, Champagne, French Lorrain, and Bar; with the Hiſtory and Genealogy of the Dukes of Lorrain, and the Government of Burgundy; and begins that of Lionnois. With Two Maps---One of the South Part of France; and another of the principal Rivers of the Kingdom. Printed by John Nutt in the Savoy; and ſold by John Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Where may be had the 18 preceding Months. And Bibliotheca Anatomica, Medica, Chirurgica, &c. for November and December. Both publiſh'd Monthly. Pr. 1 s. each.

WHereas there is lately publiſhed a neat and beautiful Edition of Biſhop Beveridge on Publick Prayer, and frequent Communion, deſigned to revive primitive Piety; and whereas ſeveral of the Clergy and Laity have ſubſcribed to that excellent Book, which is now ſold for 1 s. in Sheets, and 1 s. 2 d. bound; this is to deſire other pious Perſons to encourage and diſperſe them throughout the Kingdom; which it is not doubted but they will readily do, when conſidered, a greater Good cannot be done at a leſs Expence. Thoſe that take a Hundred ſhall have Ten gratis; and are hereby deſired to ſend in their Names and Numbers ſpeedily, to R. Smith at his Warehouſe in Exeter Exchange in the Strand, the Books being ready to deliver. At which Place alſo may be had, the ſaid Biſhop's Engliſh Works in Nine Volumes, Price 2 l. 2 s. 6 d. and ready Money for any Library or Parcel of Books.

A Gentleman coming along Thames-ſtreet about Six a Clock at Night on the 6. inſtant, hath taken up a Red Letter-caſe torn at one End, with ſome Bills and Accounts, and ſome Receipts of no Uſe but to the Owner, Payment being ſtop'd. If the Gentleman that took it up will bring it to the Kentiſh Hoy in Little-Eaſtcheap, ſhall have Five Shillings Reward.

Newly publiſh'd,

*** The Caſe of the Heirs at Law to George Monke, late Duke of Albemarle. Sold by B. Bragge, at the Black Raven in Pater-noſter Row. Price 3 d.

New Muſick this Day publiſh'd,

THE moſt celebrated Airs and Duets in the Opera's of Pyrrhus and Cloelia. Curiouſly fitted and contrived for two Flutes, with their Simphonies; introduced in a compleat Manner. Price each Set 2 s. 6 d. Note, Moſt of them being printed in the Keys they were performed in at the Theatre, renders them as proper for Two Violins, being very ſprightly and agreeable to the Inſtruments. The whole fairly engraven. Printed for J. Walſh, Servant in Ordinary to her Majeſty, and P. Randall, at the Harp and Hautboy in Katherine-ſtreet near Somerſet-Houſe in the Strand, and J. Hare at the Viol and Flute in Cornhill near the Royal-Exchange.

THE famous Chymical Quinteſſence of Bohea Tea and Chocolate together, the firſt of that Kind ever made; in which are eſſentially inherent the true Vertues of both Tea and Nut, inſomuch that a few Drops of it gives more Nourriſhment than 20 Diſhes of either, and is therefore the higheſt Reſtorative in Decays of Nature, conſumptive Habits, inward Weakneſs, Waſtings, and Coughs, Aſthma's, Poorneſs of Blood, &c. Invigorating and Strengthening Nature beyond all Food or Phyſick. Sold at 5 s. the Bottle at Mr. Lawrence's Toyſhop, at the Corner of Buckles-bury, Poultry.

This Week will be publiſhed,

A Full Account of the Converſion of Mr. John Barville, alias Barton, from Popery to the Church of England; with the Manner of his being brought up in the Engliſh College at Rome; and alſo of his being employed in the Popiſh Service in England. Wherein he plainly diſcloſes all the ſecret Springs and Myſteries of their Religion, and confutes them by their own Arguments. With ſeveral other Remarks upon the horrid Maxims, Practices, and Superſtitions, both of the Prieſts themſelves, and of the People deluded by them. By the ſaid J. Barville. Whereunto are added, the Forms of his Abjuration before Dr. Kennet, (in the Pariſh Church of St. Mary Aldermary) and of ſeveral other Gentlemen. And laſtly, a Letter of Dr. Kennet, relating ſeveral Inſtances of the like Nature. Printed for J. Philips, at the Black Boy over-againſt the Royal Exchange in Cornhill.

THE Famous POWDER for the STONE, GRAVEL, and STRANGURY, that has perform'd ſo many remarkable Cures in thoſe Caſes, of which there are conſtant Inſtances Certificates whereof, together with the Names and Places of Abode of many that have been reliev'd by it, too numerous to be inſerted here, are to be ſeen at Mr. Rogers's, Bookſeller in Fleet-ſtreet. There are likewiſe ſeveral large Stones that it has brought away from divers Perſons, to be ſeen at Mr. Aylmer's, Bookſeller in Cornhil: At both which Places only it is to be ſold, for 5 s. the Paper, which contains 3 Doſes, with Directions. The Perſon who prepares it, is to be ſpoken with every Tueſday and Thurſday, between 11 and 12, at Mr. Rogers's Shop above mention'd.